



Weekly Information & Communication



August 22, 2016

## State Plan Policy Updates

Since our conference call on 8/4/16, we have a couple of policy updates that will take place in the 2017 State Plan, which goes into effect October 1<sup>st</sup>.

- On the call we had a question about using the Certificate of Live Birth, given at the hospital, as proof of residency. We decided to add that as acceptable proof (updated policy 5.1 and will update M-SPIRIT for 10/1/16).
- We had originally added VOC as form of ID, however, we received a new policy guidance document from FNS stating that ID and Residency need to be checked for VOC transfer participants. The VOC itself only counts as proof of income and nutrition risk eligibility. Therefore, we reverted the policy back to how it was originally written.
- The draft [2017 SP draft](#) is now posted on our website.

## 2017-2018 Monitoring Information Posted

Please review the 2017-2018 [monitoring website](#) as there have been substantial changes in the monitoring process. The information is located on the state website under local agency monitoring, and below the 2016-2015 monitoring website.

## One Call Now

The Montana WIC program is up for an annual renewal with the One Call Now voicemail and messaging system. Upon renewal, we have identified some key areas that we would appreciate the local agencies feedback on:

- Are there any agencies that would no longer be interested in participating with the One Call Now program?
- Are there suggestions to improve the currently used scripts? We want to clearly interpret messages to all WIC participants.
- Would a monthly One Call Now training on topics such as, “Canned Calls,” be beneficial? We are exploring more training opportunities for those who would be interested.

The state office would encourage all employees to refer to the [WIC website](#) for any further information or just as a “refresher” opportunity. Please submit any feedback you have to Alex at [along@mt.gov](mailto:along@mt.gov) or 406-444-4746.

## Civil Rights Training Reminder

This is a reminder for all lead local agencies to submit their annual [civil rights training](#). The deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>. Once all staff for the agency has reviewed the PowerPoint, please submit the sign-in sheet to [Kelly](#) at the state office. If you have any questions please call 444-0909.

## Education Plans for 2016/2017

Just a reminder that the, [Breastfeeding](#), [Nutrition](#), and [Outreach plans](#) are due August 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have questions regarding these plans please contact the state office.

## Ordering Breast Pumps

In an effort to ensure we have appropriate breast pump inventory for the next fiscal year, please submit an order for your agency to receive breast pumps to last at least 6 months.

A revised Breast Pump Inventory and Order Form is now posted to the [Montana WIC webpage](#) under Local Agency Staff and then Order Forms. Please use this updated form. The ordering process has changed slightly. If you email the order as an attachment, please send the email to both [Dick](#) and [Chris](#). If you fax to 406-444-0239 or mail it, please send it to Chris' attention.

## Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program Conference Call

The August BPCP call is Thursday, August 25, 2016, from 9:00 am to 10:00 am (depending on business and length of discussion). Check the [Agenda](#) for call-in information and topics.

## CEU Reminder

We are approaching the end of WIC's federal fiscal year. This is a reminder that all staff must complete and submit the required CEU requirements by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. If CEU requirements are not completed, M-Spirit access may be revoked. Please refer to the state plan policy 4.6 for any questions regarding the requirements or contact [Lacy Little](#) at the state office.

## Bi-Monthly Webinar

September 1<sup>st</sup>: We will be kicking off bi-monthly training webinars starting on the first Thursday of odd months (alternate to regular conference calls). Our first webinar will be September 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 am. The September webinar will be a training on approving special formula requests. This is very important for CPAs and RDs as there will be a change in the policy regarding formula approvals starting October 1<sup>st</sup>. The webinar link and call in information will be in the August 29<sup>th</sup> newsletter. If you have questions, please contact [Lacy Little](#) at the State Office.

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## VENA Webinar

The next VENA webinar is this Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 12-1 pm, *The Role of Technology in VENA...To Think or Not to Think*. Here is the [link](#) to log in for it. This is eligible for 1 WIC CEU; please submit the appropriate form once the training is completed to [lalittle@mt.gov](mailto:lalittle@mt.gov).

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## Breast Feeding and Beyond: Best Practices for Feeding an Infant with Cow Milk Allergy

Join Keli Hawthorne, MS, RD, LD, for a free CPE-approved webinar to discuss the role of human milk and specialized pediatric formulas in the management of cow milk allergy.

**Date:** Tuesday August 30, 2016 and **Time:** 12 PM ET OR 3 PM ET.

Cow milk allergy is one of the most confirmed food protein allergies in early childhood. Dietary management is vital in managing this condition. Learn about the role of breast milk, maternal diet and specialized pediatric formulas. [Click here](#) for more information and [register here](#).

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## WIC Advertising Campaign

We are wrapping up the annual WIC Advertising Campaign geared towards reaching Montana's residents on a large scale. You will find the Ad materials placed at **52** stations above gas pumps and gas media stations, as well as on the side of transit vehicles traveling routes all around the state. This project has received thorough acknowledgement from our targeted demographic. If you would like to know the exact locations where we are advertising, please contact [Alex Long](#) at the state office, or call 406-444-4746.

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## And Then There Were Six

Yes, as of last week we were notified that five local agencies had won nursing bras, covers and nursing tank tops. Now there are six. Ravalli WIC also was a winner. Congratulations.

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## Weekly Risk Code Highlight

[Risk Code 354](#), Celiac Disease (CD) is an autoimmune disease precipitated by the ingestion of gluten (a protein in wheat, rye, and barely) that results in damage to the small intestine and malabsorption of the nutrients from food.

Presence of condition is diagnosed, documented, or reported by a physician or someone working under a physician's orders, or as self-reported by applicant/participant/caregiver.

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